



Parish Bulletin of
St Andrew's, Dumfries
and
St Columba's, Annan

Parishes of the R C Diocese of Galloway -
Registered Charity No. SCO10576

Parish Notices

Week beginning 31st December, 2023

Mass timetable in the week ahead:

There is a normal timetable in the week ahead with the addition of Mass on Monday 1st January at 10am.

St Andrew's: Monday at 10am; Wednesday at 10am; Friday at 10am

St Columba's: Tuesday at 10am; Thursday at 7pm.

Weekend Masses:

St Andrew's: Saturday Vigil at 6pm ; Sunday at 10am;

St Columba's : Sunday at 12noon

NB There is Mass with exposition in St Teresa's on Saturday, 6th January at 10am.

NB All Sunday 10am and Wednesday 10am Masses from St Andrew's are live-streamed.

Mon 1st Jan, New Year Mass

There will be a Mass on Monday 1st January, 2024. This is the Feast of Mary, mother of God. It is no longer a Holyday of Obligation but remains a major Marion Feast and a great way to start the New Year.

First Saturday Rosary to our Lady of Fatima

This will be said next Saturday, 6th January, at 5.15pm at Our Lady's Altar.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

There is an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the period of Exposition on alternate Saturdays and also before the Vigil Mass on each weekend.

Justice and Peace

There is a second collection next weekend for the work of the Justice and Peace commission.

Church Coffee break

Those who run Sunday Coffee are having a well-earned, Christmas break and will return on Sun 7th January. Thank you!

Church Collection Envelopes

The 2024 sets of Church collection envelopes will be prepared soon for usual distribution in March. Can you please indicate in the next week or so if you currently use envelopes but no longer require them for 2024. Those who have already intimated a switch to Standing Order in 2023 are already noted and don't need to be in touch again. Many thanks.

Collections

St Andrew's collection was £1593.48. **SSVP** collected £164.20.

St Columba's collection was £685 and £76.85 was donated for SCIAF. Thank you very much.

Firstbase continues to be grateful for all donations.

Pope Francis' prayer intention for December:

For persons with disabilities:

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusivity which values their active participation.

Parish Priest

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standrewsdumfries.org.uk

stcolumbasannan.org.uk

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31st December , 2023

The Holy Family (Year B)

Genesis 25:1-6; 21:1-3

Hebrews 11: 18. 11-12. 17-19

Luke 2: 22-40

Psalm Response

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!

Today's Liturgy: Eucharistic Prayer I

Next Sunday :

Solemnity of the Epiphany (Year B)

The Holy Family (Year B)

Today's feast offers us the image of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph to help us in our own family lives. The choice of date for its celebration is no doubt intended to coincide with the time of year when we are most likely to be coming together in our own family units....for better or worse!

Fr Gerald's Mass Intentions for this week:

Monday:	Joseph Ellis
Tuesday:	Frances Sherry intention
Wednesday:	Evelyn Grant
Thursday:	Anna McNaught
Friday:	Mabel McLuskie anniversary
Saturday:	Turner and Mallinder Intention
Sunday:	For the Parish

Please remember in your prayers

*those who are sick, everyone on the family prayer
ministry requests and all those whose needs are not
known to us.*

Libby McLaughlin

Anne Murdy

Eric Sherman

James Behan

Anne Richardson

Astrida Kruste

Ted & Jean Machin

Cathy O'Neill

Michael O'Regan

Peter Richardson

Sick and Housebound

I am available for the reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and Holy Communion. If any parishioner requires assistance or needs to talk, please call me on the Parish number.

www.virc.at This website provides the readings for the Mass in many languages, eg English.

Please convey information and updates safely to anyone you know who is sick or housebound.



“Educate The Kids” Annual Christmas Appeal

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed to the £398.31 which was collected in Church for the children in Kenya’s food while they are away from school for six weeks over the festive period and unable to have their daily porridge and lunch. The “Educate the Kids” food appeal will again help to provide a food parcel for every impoverished family over the holidays. The money raised is on its way directly to the charity and each £1 can buy a substantial bag of rice which will be very much appreciated by the families. You can donate at any time online at www.educatethekids.com. Thank you once more on behalf of the children and their grateful families.



Thank God for our New Bishop!

We are delighted to announce that Pope Francis has appointed a new Bishop of Galloway Diocese. He is Fr Frank Dougan who is currently a priest in the Motherwell Diocese. Reacting to his appointment Fr Frank said, “I am humble and more than a little nervous that Pope Francis has asked me to take on this office. I feel confident however that I will not be alone in spreading the joy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I will be joining with every single person in Galloway Diocese, all of whom have a role to play, my role being just one of them.” We look forward to welcoming Fr Frank to the Diocese and we pray for his sustenance as we prepare to support him in his future ministry.



A Big, “Well Done” to p4 Crafters

A very big well done to the St Andrew’s Primary p4 Crafters in the photograph who raised a further £101 for the collection for “Educate the Kids”. What a fantastic effort and outcome! You have helped the families in Kenya to have food for the whole family and to feel cared for this Christmas!



The donations collected in the basket at our Crib/ Nativity will be donated, as is usual, to St Margaret’s Children and Family Care Society, which is based in Glasgow and is the only Catholic Adoption Agency in the UK. This is a vital source of income for the charity which provides a number of services for adoptive families as well as recruiting, training and supporting new adopters. Kinship care is currently being prioritised by the government and St Margaret’s is in the process of further developing their service so that they can adapt to best serve children and families. Please donate whatever you can via the basket at the Crib on the altar.

St Andrew’s “200” Club

Winners for the special Christmas and New Year draw are as follows:

£50	no. 68	Anne Johnstone
£25	no. 36	Abi Rayen
£25	no. 138	Margaret Turner
£25	no. 62	Harry Holmes

Congratulations to all of this month’s winners!

RCIA Inquirers

Please speak with Fr Gerald if you are interested at all in finding out more about Roman Catholicism with a view to making an informed and carefully considered decision about whether or not you want to join in full communion with the Church. Your enquiry will be very welcomed.

MOOL

The MOOL charity which is based in the hall basement at St Andrew’s does a tremendous amount of good work with refugees in the region. They have asked for specific donations of training shoes for young men, walking boots and toiletries as well as all other general items of clothing. Please help if you can.



Cost of living crisis:

In response to the cost of living crisis and especially in response to the rise in energy bills, some limited funds are available to parishioners who are particularly struggling. If this applies to you, please speak in confidence with Fr Gerald.

NB There is a First Aid box in the Church Sacristy should anyone need it at any time.



*A very happy New Year to all
Parishioners and to every person
in our local and global
Communities as we strive together*



*for peace, mutual understanding
and for the fulfilment of God’s
will for us all in 2024.*



Church Cleaning Appeal

Please consider volunteering to help for one hour per month with Church or hall cleaning in small, friendly teams. Let Fr Gerald or one of the pass keepers know if you can sign up. Cleaning times can be flexible to fit with individual schedules and no technical skills are needed! More details are also available from Ana in the Parish Office on Fridays. Tel 01387 254281. Thank you!

Please take a copy of the bulletin home to remind you of the times of services and events during the coming week and please take a copy to anyone you know who is sick or housebound.

